WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Investments in Maharashtra

3102. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite stiff competitions from Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Tamil Nadu, the State Government of Maharashtra has not given up its efforts to attract investments;

(b) whether Central Government's move to release an investor friendly mega project policy in June, 2005 and the Industrial Policy 2006, by and large has been instrumental in attracting investors, despite acute power shortage of nearly 5000 MW; and

(c) if so, to what extent Maharashtra has been able to attract investment after this mega policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Government of Maharashtra has been in the forefront to attract investments in the State. Its officials have participated at various economic meets world over, like 'Vin Italy' Wine Fair (2006), Worlds Ecomomic Forum Annual Meeting 2007 and 2008), Canton Fair in China (2007), Third Meeting (Tokyo) of India-Japan Task Force on Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), India Calling 2007 at South Africa etc. The State officials have also visited UK, USA, Canada, Hongkong, China, Japan, Germany and Switzerland with the prime purpose of attracting investment.

(b) and (c) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has not released any Mega Project Policy, 2005 and the Industrial Policy, 2006. However, the Maharashtra region has attracted the highest Foreign Direct Investment in the country during the last three years. Details are provided in the Statement (*See* below). Similarly, Maharashtra is one of the leading States in terms of attracting investment through Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandums (IEMs) filed as well as issue of Letter of Intents (LOIs)/Direct Industrial Licences (DILs). Details are provided in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

RBI's region-wise FDI inflows from April 2005 to February 2008

(As Reported to Regional Offices of RBI)

(Amount in US$ million)

Sl No.	Regional Offices of RBI	States Covered	Amount of FDI Inflows			% age with Total FDI Inflows in the country		
			2005-2006	2006 2007	2007-2008	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
1	Mumbai	Maharashtra, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu	1,040.77	3,599.13	7,902.52	18.79	28.81	39.24
2	Bangalore	Karnataka	412.37	714.34	1,561.54	7.44	5.72	7.75
3.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	150.83	368.92	1,020.32	2.72	2.95	5.07
4.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	238.20	594.24	990.71	4.30	4.76	4.92
5	Chennai	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	268.15	1,311.94	538.05	4.84	10.50	2.67
6	Bhubaneshwar	Orissa	70.59	10 62	7.47	1.27	0.08	0 04

Statement-II

Industrial Entrepreneurs Memorandum (IEMs), Letters of Intent (LOIs)/Direct Industrial Licences (DILs) filed/issued and investment attracted since April, 2005 to March, 2008.

Sl. No.	States Covered	Number of IEMs/LOIs/DILs filed/Issued			Proposed Investment in crore		
		2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
1.	Maharashtra	826	760	590	24694	62191	83257
2.	Karnataka	268	286	222	15353	72250	154940
3.	Gujarat	753	478	340	82901	72283	121603
4.	Andhra Pradesh	493	582	343	19001	48660	53474
5.	Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry	630	698	434	11841	20377	43213
6.	Orissa	167	126	140	38255	96869	198694

Increase in sugar price in international market

†3103. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of sugar in the international market has continuously increased in the last one year till the week ending 8th February, 2008;

(b) if so, the total percentage of increase in the price of sugar from January, 2007 to February, 2008;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the future trading of sugar in the international market for the coming months has been carried out on the prices higher than the existing prices; and

(d) if so, the prices at which the future trading for May-August has been carried out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE) MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. During January 2007 to February 2008, the international sugar market prices for both raw and white sugar have fluctuated in both the directions. However, there has been an increase of 8% in the international sugar prices from January 2007 to February 2008. In case of raw sugar, the increase in international prices during this period has been 27.96%.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The international future prices in the coming months (May-August) as compared to January, 2008's international sugar price of US $ 350.41/PMT are given below:

(US $ PMT)

Opening transaction on	May'08	Aug'08
01st Apr. 2008	330.70	332.30
04th Apr. 2008	341.70	337.90
08th Apr. 2008	343.40	345.00
15th Apr. 2008	365.50	357.60

Source: Euronext.com & Liffe.com

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.